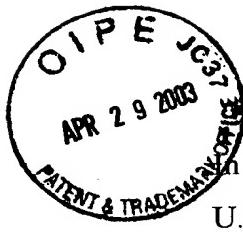


5AU 2871



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Application of:

LIGHT SEPARATION DEVICE, BLAZED GRATING
DEVICE, DIFFRACTION GRATING DEVICE, AND
ILLUMINATION OPTICAL SYSTEM

For: Jun ISHIHARA, et al
Confirmation No.: 9666
U.S. Serial No.: 09/843,661
Filed: April 26, 2001
Group Art Unit: 2871
Examiner: Zhi Qiang Qi

5-2003
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Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

05/06/2003 AJ0HNS01 00000002 181260 09843661
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

April 24, 2003

Date of Deposit

Kathy E. Needleman

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered
Representative

Signature

April 24, 2003

Date of Signature

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action, dated February 25, 2003, which provides for a response period ending April 25, 2003 with a one month extension of time.